# TOWN of STONEHAM FINANCE and ADVISORY BOARD ANNUAL TOWN MEETING RECOMMENDATIONS

May 4, 2009 7:30pm at Town Hall



Dan Towse is an example of what one Stoneham High School graduate might achieve. You might know of him today as a Conservation Commission member, the Whip Hill Trust Administrator, the husband for sixty years of Marian or father of Linda, Janet and Amy. But, there is much more. Please introduce yourself to Mr. Towse; thank him and ask him about his 68 years of citizenry and employment as

- Coast Guard Reservist
- US Army Sergeant and squad leader of General Patton's 3<sup>rd</sup> Army Division
- Three WWII Campaigns, including the Battle of the Bulge, and a Bronze Star
- Town Deputy Tree Warden
- Planning Board Member
- Selectman
- Town Meeting Moderator
- Scout leader
- Appalachian Mountain Club member
- State House Representative
- Chief Forester for MDC Parks

Then, consider getting involved in our community. Compared to surviving the Battle of the Bulge, today's challenges are only annoying. Our system of municipal government and its success depends on your willingness to participate. The Finance Board feels that our town benefits from active residents, such as Mr. Towse. Thank you, Mr. Towse, for setting an example for the rest of us.

#### **Parliamentary Procedure:**

(A special Thank You to the League of Women Voters of Stoneham)

- **Motion** A proposal to take action. It is necessary to obtain recognition from the moderator to establish a motion. Yelling louder than the other person does not validate a motion. Each motion is open for discussion. Most must be seconded and submitted in writing. (Some inquiries and challenges are excluded.)
- **Obtain Recognition** The moderator acknowledges each speaker. The speaker must first state their name and address to debate and address the moderator. Generally, no member is allowed to speak again on the same article, if other members wish to speak.
- **Amendment** A motion to change the original motion. Amendments require a second and written submission to the Town Clerk and Moderator. Town Meeting voters who wish to make an amendment are asked to prepare, if at all possible, the amendment in advance
- **Move the Question** A tactic to end debate and force a vote. This action supersedes previous motions and must be voted upon. If the Town Moderator receives a 2/3's vote, the debate has ended on the motion.
- **Move for Reconsideration** Often requested as soon as a vote has been taken on a motion. A motion can only be reconsidered once. Proponents of a motion often will ask for reconsideration and ask for a <u>NO</u> vote. If successful, this motion cannot be debated nor voted again. Be careful, a later vote might change your mind about a previous vote.
- **Hand Count, or Show of Hands** This action is called when Town Meeting voters want to challenge the Moderator's decision on the vote. The call for a Hand Count also forces sides to publicly display their choice for an extended period of time. Counters are sworn in to tally the precise vote count and to report to the Town Clerk. Seven people are needed to require a hand count.
- **Secret Ballot** Instead of voting by raising hands, the vote takes place by distributing ballots, marking the ballots in isolation and then a ballot tally. The intent is to circumvent coercion. In practice this is a time consuming process. Twenty-five people are needed to approve to call for a secret ballot.
- **Town Meeting Members** Registered voters in Stoneham are Town Meeting Members. This is an open form of Town Meeting Government. Non-registered voters may not speak freely on motions and cannot vote. Often they must sit apart from members.

#### **Definitions of Some Budget Terms**

- Cherry Sheet This is a balance sheet issued each year by the Commonwealth to each community. It is synonymous with gross State Aid. Net State Aid is the Cherry Sheet minus the Green Sheet, (aka State Charges). 95% of Stoneham's State Aid comes from Lottery, Additional Assistance and Chapter 70 money. 95% of the state charges to Stoneham are from Charter Schools, MBTA and retired Teachers' Health Insurance.
- **The General Fund** This is the set of revenues raised from local taxes and fees. Some services are funded outside the general fund, e.g. revolving accounts and grants.
- **Local Receipts** This is the departmental and excise tax revenue collected by the town. 75% of the local receipts come from Motor Vehicle excise tax and Unicorn Recreation Area fees.
- Overlay This is a reserve fund available to the Assessor. The fund covers the liability of abatements. The Commonwealth reimburses most of Stoneham's tax exemptions. Abatements are issued for substantiate protests of an unfair property tax assessment. Litigation is often involved and the funds are held for several years. The Assessor releases funds when the balance exceeds potential abatements.
- **Bond Anticipation Note, (BAN)** Short-term notes sold in anticipation of a bond issue.
- **Reserve Fund** The Finance and Advisory Board is allowed to transfer money from this fund to manage extraordinary and unforeseen expenditures. The Reserve Fund cannot exceed \$2.5M and cannot contradict the budget vote of Town Meeting.
- **Revolving Accounts** There are many types of Revolving Accounts. Most allow departments to draw money without appropriation of a Town Meeting vote. Most excess balances are allowed to spill over after year-end as Free Cash. Generally, these accounts are not allowed to fund salaries and fringe benefits of Town Employees. The best similarity to a revolving account in business is the petty cash account.
- **Stabilization Account** This is a Town Meeting savings account. Only Town Meeting may deposit into and withdraw from this account. 2/3's vote is required to withdraw from the savings.
- Override In 1982 Massachusetts legislated restrictions on property tax growth. Without special ballot approval, a community may increase its property tax levy by no more than 2.5% in any single year. The special ballot election is called an override election. Only the Board of Selectmen may call for such an election.



FINANCE AND ADVISORY BOARD TOWN OF STONEHAM

April 16, 2009

#### Dear Residents of Stoneham:

The Finance and Advisory Board welcomes you to Town Meeting. It is the responsibility of the Finance and Advisory Board to provide useful information to you, the voter.

All Stoneham registered voters are encouraged to participate in Town Meeting, to voice their opinions, to ask questions, and to vote. **WE NEED YOU!** Town Meeting decisions determine how your community operates.

Included herein are Warrant Articles and a Fiscal Year 2010 ("FY10") Budget with background information to aid you in understanding the town's fiscal standing. As always, the Finance and Advisory Board worked hard on your behalf to understand and deliberate the budget and article issues.

#### **Summary of FY10 Revenues**

Most revenues, 77%, are from property taxes, excise taxes and water and sewer fees. The debt exclusion and state aid to build new elementary schools accounts for another 6% of the revenues; department revenues and fees, 5%. Net state aid as proposed by the Governor of \$6,721,056 is 12%. The current House Ways & Means state budget appropriates net aid for Stoneham at a significantly lower amount, \$5,941,152.

Your town leaders are aware of uncertainties in state aid and federal stimulus grants. A contingency budget has been drafted. At this time final adjustments will be considered at the October Town Meeting. The revenue sources and forecast for FY is found on pages 36 and 37.

#### **Summary of FY10 General Fund Budget Expenditures**

The budget presented to you at Town Meeting is balanced to the Governor's State Aid. The proposed FY10 budget is \$60,141,987 and is less than the FY09 budget, \$60,597,008, as approved by voters at the October 2008 special Town Meeting.

Department	Proposed FY10	Current FY09	\$ Change	% Change
Administration	1,446,373	1,513,656	-67,283	-4%
General Government (including debt service)	16,658,766	16,955,306	-296,540	-2%
Public Safety	5,919,784	5,966,957	-47,173	-1%
Intergovernmental Charge	6,704,956	6,704,956	0	0%
Community Maintenance & Development	4,698,488	4,374,053	324,435	7%
Resident Services	1,864,642	1,990,258	-125,616	-6%
Capital	0	489,000	-489,000	-100%
Town Schools	22,163,000	21,931,844	231,156	1%
Regional Vocational Schools	685,978	670,978	15,000	2%
Total Budget	60,141,987	60,597,008	-455,020	-1%

Since the Town Administrator presented the Selectmen a balanced budget in February, no substantial changes have been made.

As you consider the budget and special appropriation articles, thank the town employees who are among the first in the Commonwealth to join GIC. As a result, the problems of state aid cuts that many other towns face do not come to Stoneham in FY10 because of a smaller increase in health insurance.

**Summary of Long Term Financial Model** 

_	FY Salary	FY Total	FY Salary	FY Total	FY Salary	FY Total	FY Total	FY Total
	2010	2010	2011	2011	2012	2012	2013	2014
	Estimated							
ADMINISTRATION	1,221,998	1,446,373	1,221,998	1,446,373	1,221,998	1,446,373	1,446,373	1,446,373
DEBT & PENSIONS	6,875,526	16,658,766	7,425,568	18,422,232	8,019,614	19,018,169	19,781,242	20,509,569
PUBLIC SAFETY	5,574,916	5,919,784	5,574,916	5,919,784	5,574,916	5,919,784	5,919,784	5,919,784
COMM MAINT & DEVEL	1,829,486	11,403,444	1,821,316	11,627,193	1,821,316	11,711,816	11,799,231	11,889,531
HUMAN RESOURCE DEV	1,019,396	2,550,620	1,019,396	2,584,919	1,019,396	2,620,933	2,658,747	2,698,453
SCHOOL	17,752,354	22,163,000	17,752,354	22,163,000	17,752,354	22,163,000	22,163,000	22,163,000
SUB TOTAL TOWN EXPEND	34,273,676	60,141,987	34,815,548	62,163,502	35,409,594	62,880,075	63,768,378	64,626,710
State charges		1,031,830		1,052,467		1,073,516	1,094,986	1,116,886
Offsets		30,205		30,205		30,205	30,205	30,205
Overlay		600,000		600,000		600,000	600,000	600,000
Special Article Sewer		300,000		300,000		300,000	300,000	300,000
Special Article Water		300,000		300,000		300,000	300,000	300,000
SUB TOTAL		2,262,035		2,282,672		2,303,721	2,325,191	2,347,091
GRAND TOTAL EXPENSES	34,273,676	62,404,022	34,815,548	64,446,173	35,409,594	65,183,796	66,093,569	66,973,801
PROPERTY TAX		37,836,484		38,892,544		39,979,054	41,091,825	42,205,440
STATE AIDE & SBAB		9,466,149		9,466,149		9,466,149	9,466,149	9,466,149
LOCAL RECEIPTS		14,850,934		14,750,934		14,750,934	14,750,934	14,750,934
OTHER		246,950		246,950		246,950	246,950	246,950
GRAND TOTAL REVENUES		62,400,517		63,356,577		64,443,087	65,555,858	66,669,473
GRAND TOTAL		-3,505		-1,089,596		-740,710	-537,712	-304,328

Town leaders work with a five year forecast. The model assumes no salary raises, an inflation indexed increase for trash services, an annual eight percent increase in health insurance costs, and a guess for the increased costs of pension obligations. Unless substantial revenue changes or expense reductions are made before FY11, the town will face its most severe challenge in memory. Selectman Richard Gregorio is the custodian of this model, but you can discuss your ideas and suggestions with any Selectman or Finance Board member.

The Finance and Advisory Board implores residents to use our limited resources wisely.

Sincerely,

John Warren, Finance and Advisory Board chairperson

**Roster of Current Finance and Advisory Board Members** 

Term Expires, June 2009	Term Expires, June 2010	Term Expires, June 2011
Russ Wilson, since 2005	Ben Caggiano, since 1997	Stephen Born, since 2007
Keith MacLeod, since 2008	Matt Fuller, since 2008	Bill Previdi, since 2008
Jeanne Craigie, since 2008	John DeAmicis, since 2004	Nick Stavre, since 2005
Dr. James Sinclair, since 2007	John Warren, since 1996	

#### **Warrant for Annual Town Meeting**

#### Tuesday, April 7, 2009

To either of the Constables of the Town of Stoneham in the County of Middlesex, GREETING:

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are directed to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Stoneham qualified to vote in elections and Town affairs to meet in the **Town Hall, 35 Central Street,** on Tuesday, April 7, 2009, at seven o'clock in the forenoon to act on the following articles of this warrant:

#### **Town Elections:**

#### **Article 1.** To choose the following officers:

Two (2) Selectmen for three (3) years.

Two (2) Library Trustees for three (3) years.

One (1) Board of Assessors Member for three (3) years.

Three (3) Constables for three (3) years.

One (1) Board of Health Member for three (3) years.

Two (2) School Committee Members for three (3) years.

One (1) Town Moderator for two (2) years.

One (1) Housing Authority Member for five (5) years.

One (1) Planning Board Member for five (5) years.

All on one ballot.

The polls for the Annual Town Election shall be closed at eight o'clock in the evening.

For consideration of the following Articles, the meeting shall be adjourned to meet in the **Town Hall** at 7:00 o'clock in the evening on Monday, May 4, 2009, in accordance with provisions of Article II, section 2-3 of the By-Laws of the Town of Stoneham.

#### **Volunteer Committee Appointments:**

**Article 2.** To choose all other necessary Town officers for the ensuing year in such a manner as the Town may determine.

#### **Board of Selectmen**

#### **Town Reports:**

**Article 3.** To hear the reports of Town officers and committees and to act thereon and to choose committees.

#### **Board of Selectmen**

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#### **Salaries of Elected Officials:**

**Article 4.** To see if the Town will vote to fix the salaries of the several elective officers and the Boards of the Town for the 2009/2010 fiscal year.

#### **Board of Selectmen**

#### The Finance and Advisory Board recommends a FAVORABLE action.

State law requires a special Town Meeting vote to a fix stipends and salaries of elected officials. The Town Clerk is the only full time position. No stipends or salary of elected officials have changed from FY09.

One Moderator \$200 Five Selectmen \$15,000 total Three Assessors \$3,600 total One Town Clerk \$62,000

#### **Change Zoning Law at Unicorn:**

**Article 5.** To see if the Town will vote to amend the Stoneham Town Code, Chapter 15 Zoning By-Laws, as follows:

1. Adding Section 4.17– Stoneham Arena and Stoneham Oaks Par 3 Golf Course Overlay District By adding as Section 4.17 a Stoneham Arena and Stoneham Oaks Par 3 Golf Course Overlay District to allow for the as-of-right use of property in said Overlay District for any sports and/or recreational use, and related business, office, retail, promotional, parking, vehicle and pedestrian access, and accessory uses.

The dimensional requirements for the Stoneham Arena and Stoneham Oaks Par 3 Golf Course Overlay District shall be as follows:

Minimum Lot Size in Square Feet – 40,000 Frontage and Lot Width in Feet – None Required Percent Coverage – No limitation. Minimum Setback in Feet – Front – 40; Side – 20; and Rear – 20 (No setback required where abutting property owned by the Town of Stoneham.) Height in Feet - 40

The parking requirement shall be one for every four hundred fifty square feet of gross floor area, however, no parking shall be required for the use of any portion of the sports facility that is made available for use by the public. The dimensional and parking requirements set out herein are subject to change in the motion for this article.

If any section of Section 4.17 or portion thereof is declared invalid it shall not affect the validity or application of the remainder of the bylaw.

#### 2. Amending the Town of Stoneham Zoning Map

By amending the Zoning Map of the Town of Stoneham by adding the area of the Stoneham Arena and all or a portion of the Stoneham Oaks Par 3 Golf Course to the Stoneham Arena and Stoneham Oaks Par 3 Golf Course Overlay District:

Or do anything in relation thereto.

**Board of Selectmen** 

#### The Finance and Advisory Board withholds its recommendation until Town Meeting.

The Finance Board is uncertain of the background details that support this article. No Planning Board Public hearing has yet to be conducted. One will happen before Town Meeting.

An overlay district is needed to support the operational staffing and services of a professional hockey team that might practice at the Unicorn Rink. Current zoning does not allow for business functions to take place on a recreational parks area.

After Town Meeting approval, the success of this change will depend upon approval from the State Legislature and National Parks Service and conformance with state regulations. It is appropriate that Stoneham residents consider and approve of this measure before seeking approval at state and federal levels.

The Finance and Advisory Board understands the intent of this article, but withholds its support until more information is known about Articles 6 and 7.

#### **Spend Money for Town Arena Expansion:**

Article 6. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum of money to fund the costs associated with the expansion, reconstruction and improvements to the Stoneham Arena, 101 Montvale Avenue, including, but not limited to, the build-out of office space, locker rooms, and accessory requirements, and also including supporting parking spaces, vehicle and pedestrian access at the Stoneham Arena and on a portion of the Stoneham Oaks Par Three Golf Course, 101R Montvale

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Avenue, and to meet this appropriation the Town Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, is authorized to borrow under Chapter 44 of the Mass. General Laws or any other enabling authority; and the Board of Selectmen and Town Administrator are authorized to take any action necessary to carry out this vote.

Or do anything in relation thereto.

#### **Board of Selectmen**

#### The Finance and Advisory Board withholds its recommendation until Town Meeting.

There is a possibility of a 25 year lease with a professional hockey team as described in Article 7. The negotiation of a lease may depend upon construction of exclusive support services for that private business at the Unicorn facility. This article will appropriate town money to modify the rink and build office space for the lessee.

At the time the Town Meeting Booklet was printed, the cost to the town was unknown and ranged from \$0 to millions of dollars. The Finance Board can not recommend a favorable action until the terms are clearly defined and understood.

#### Give Permission for 25 year Rink Lease:

Article 7. To see if the Town will vote to: (1) authorize the Town Administrator to lease for a period of up to twenty-five (25) years: (i) a portion of the Unicorn Arena, 101 Montvale Avenue, as currently constructed and hereafter expanded and renovated, and (ii) a portion of the southerly part of the Stoneham Oaks Par 3 Golf Course (101R Montvale Avenue) for uses, including, but not limited to, sports and/or recreational uses, and related business, office, retail, promotional, parking and vehicle and pedestrian access, and accessory uses; and (2) authorize the Board of Selectmen and/or Town Administrator to transfer any parcel or parcels of land dedicated or otherwise being used for general municipal purposes or other non-park or non-conservation purposes) to recreation, conservation or other natural resource land purposes.

And to further see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to petition the General Court (State Legislature) to authorize the lease of a portion of the Unicorn Arena and Stoneham Oaks Par 3 Golf Course, as described above, notwithstanding the provisions of any general or special law to the contrary or the provisions of Amended Article 97 of the Massachusetts Constitution.

Or do anything in relation thereto.

#### **Board of Selectmen**

#### The Finance and Advisory Board withholds its recommendation until Town Meeting.

The Finance Board lacks the detail information to support this article. The town can not proceed in seeking lessees until Town Meeting gives approval for such a lease. The Finance and Advisory Board seeks to understand the terms of a potential lease before it makes a recommendation to Town Meeting voters. At the time this Town meeting Booklet was printed the concepts of a lease were too vague to satisfy the Finance and Advisory Board.

#### **Spend Money for Unicorn Golfing:**

**Article 8.** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum of money to fund the costs associated with the design and construction of a practice and training facility, including a driving range, a club house, supporting parking lot, vehicle and pedestrian access, and accessory requirements, at the location of the current Stoneham Oaks Par 3 Golf Course (101R Montvale Avenue), and to meet this appropriation the Town Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, is authorized to borrow under Chapter 44 of the Mass. General Laws or any other enabling authority; and the Board of Selectmen and Town Administrator are authorized to take any action necessary to carry out this vote.

Or do anything in relation thereto.

#### **Board of Selectmen**

#### The Finance and Advisory Board withholds its recommendation until Town Meeting.

In the event that Articles 5, 6 and 7 succeed, there will be changes necessary for the layout of the Unicorn Par 3 Golf course, Stoneham Oaks. This article was drafted to describe those changes and appropriate the funds to being design and construction.

At the time this booklet was printed, the Finance and Advisory Board had not reviewed the projected costs, nor the projected cost recovery plan. This information has yet to become available. If it is still lacking at Town Meeting no Finance and Advisory Board support is expected. The course has not had a major overhaul in quite some time. Even without the Articles 5, 6 and 7, there is possibly reason to consider this matter.

#### **Regulate Sidewalk Furniture:**

Article 9. To see if the Town will vote to amend the Stoneham Town Code, Chapter 13, Streets and Sidewalks, by adding a new Section 13-13, regulating printed material vending machines (e.g. newsracks, newspaper boxes, advertiser boxes, etc.) on Town owned or controlled property, including public ways, including, but not limited to provisions and requirements regarding: permitting process, applications; review process; certificates and certificates of compliance; fees; allowed and/or authorized and unauthorized locations; type, size, number, and manner of placement of (4)

printed material vending machine boxes or other equipment authorized or otherwise permitted; additional standards, including attachment(s), clearance, installation, usage, maintenance, safety, and appearance; prohibitions and/or limits on advertising unrelated to the display or sale of the publication; compliance review and requirements; insurance and indemnification; removal; abandonment; fines and penalties, including non-criminal disposition enforcement and fines (including the amendment of Chapter 1, Section 1-4A of the Stoneham Town Code "Non-Criminal Disposition" to include said non-criminal disposition subjects, enforcing person(s) and fines); process and fees for removal and storage by or on behalf of the Town; promulgation of regulations pursuant to the bylaw by the Town Administrator; effective date; and severability. And further to address as necessary in the same bylaw or another Section in said Chapter 13, the regulation, process and requirements regarding any other structure, equipment or street "furniture" on public property, including public ways, to the extent deemed relevant by the Town to the regulation of printed material vending machines.

Or to do anything in relation thereto.

#### **Board of Selectmen**

#### The Finance and Advisory Board recommends a FAVORABLE action.

The Finance Board supports the Selectmen's efforts to regulate sidewalk newspaper boxes. The revenues are uncertain and likely to be minimal within a sixty million dollar budget. Let's agree that this is not a revenue generating article. The intent of this article will hold businesses responsible for the care of their vending machines and responsible for the litter of their printed materials. An article such as this helps the town to maintain a good looking appearance and to still allow such devices in the community.

#### **Zoning for Backvard Accessory Buildings:**

**Article 10.** To see if the Town will vote to amend the Stoneham Town Code, Chapter 15, Zoning By-law, by deleting Section 4.2.2.2(c) and substituting the following:

#### Section 4.2.2.2

- (c) One accessory building subject to the following restrictions:
  - 1. Located in the rear yard or to rear of required front setback and behind actual setback line or structure;
  - 2. Maximum gross floor area one hundred thirty (130) square feet with side and rear setbacks of five (5) feet; provided that the structure is a minimum of ten (10) feet from any abutting principal use or detached garage;
  - 3. Maximum gross floor area of two hundred fifty (250) square feet provided that the accessory building complies with the minimum setback requirements for the district contained in Section 5.2.1;
  - 4. Maximum height of fifteen (15) feet.

Or do anything in relation thereto.

**Planning Board** 

#### The Finance and Advisory Board DEFERS its recommendation to the PLANNING BOARD.

This article appeared before town meeting as the pool yard gazebo article. At the time the booklet was printed, a public hearing for this article had yet to be conducted by the Planning Board.

The subject matter is beyond the scope of the Finance and Advisory Board, who will respect the opinion of our town Planning Board.

#### **Zoning for Railroad Right of Way District:**

**Article 11.** To see if the Town will vote to amend the Stoneham Town Code, Chapter

15 Zoning By-Laws, as follows:

#### 1. Adding Section 4.18– Railroad Right-of-Way Overlay District

By adding as Section 4.18 a Railroad Right-of-Way Overlay District to allow for the temporary use of the former Railroad Right-of-Way for business uses for a period of time no longer than the earlier of the following: (i) the commencement of construction of the former Railroad Right-of-Way as

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a bikeway or linear park, or (ii) June 30, 2014 or such other date as specified in the motion for this Article.

The Railroad Right-of-Way Overlay District confers additional land use options and does not eliminate or alter zoning rights permitted in the underlying zoning district. All of the uses and accessory uses allowed in the Business District, Central Business District, Highway Business District, Commercial District I, and Medical/Office District, regardless of whether any such uses or accessory uses required a Special Permit or other approval in said zoning district, shall be allowed in the Railroad Right-of-Way Overlay District, other than the following uses: (i) automobile repair services and (ii) gasoline station or other service establishment for the retail distribution of petroleum products. The motion for this Article and Section 4.18 shall address whether said uses and accessory uses will be permitted as-of-right or will require Site Plan approval from the Board of Selectmen in the Railroad Right-of-Way Overlay District.

Section 4.18 shall allow temporary structures which shall be defined in said Section 4.18 in the same manner as a "structure" is currently defined in Section 2.1.79 of the Zoning Bylaws, but with a time limit no greater than that allowed for the temporary use authorized pursuant to said Section 4.18 as described above. [See also M.G.L. C.40, Sec. 54A]

There shall be no frontage or minimum lot size for any temporary structure placed on property located in the Railroad Right-of-Way District pursuant to Section 4.18. Minimum front, rear and side-yard setback requirements of no less than five (5) feet shall be set out in Section 4.18, except that there shall be no setback requirement if the property abutting the subject lot line is owned by the same person or entity that is using the property in the Railroad Right-of-Way Overlay District. The maximum height of any temporary structure shall be twenty (20) feet, as provided for in the current Recreation/Open Space District. A limit on maximum lot coverage, if any, shall be setout in the motion for this Article.

Section 4.18 shall provide that the Performance Standards of Section 6.8 of the Zoning Bylaws shall be applicable, and shall provide or otherwise reference that, if applicable, the Site Plan granting authority may require that a buffer shall be provided along the property line of the subject property in the Railroad Right-of-Way Overlay District where said property abuts a residential use.

Section 4.18 shall provide that the subject property in the Railroad Right-of-Way District shall not be used in calculating or otherwise complying with the frontage, lot size, percent lot coverage or setback requirements of any abutting property.

Section 4.18 shall have a parking requirement that any temporary structure in excess of seven hundred fifty (750) square feet of gross floor area shall have one (1) parking space for every seven hundred fifty (750) square feet of gross floor area.

If any section of Section 4.18 or portion thereof is declared invalid it shall not affect the validity or application of the remainder of the bylaw.

2. Amend the Town of Stoneham Zoning Map

By amending the Zoning Map of the Town of Stoneham by adding the following portions of the former Railroad Right-of-Way to the Railroad Right-of-Way Overlay District:

- (i) Approximately 6599 linear feet of railroad right-of-way, being shown on plans 128L, 128R, 129L and 129R in plan book 442C on file at the Middlesex South District Registry with accompanying instrument recorded in book 13117, page 113 of December 27, 1976, and further described as follows:
- Parcel 1: Beginning at the northerly sideline of Maple Street, a public way, and running northeasterly approximately 1070 feet to station 60 + 28.3, said portion being 41.25 feet in width. Thence continuing in a northeasterly direction from station 60 + 28.3, approximately 510 feet to the

southerly sideline of Montvale Avenue, a public way, said portion currently shown on the zoning map of the Town of Stoneham as commercial land being 33.00 feet in width.

Parcel 2: Beginning at a northerly sideline of the aforementioned Montvale Avenue and running northeasterly approximately 820 feet to the southerly sideline of Cottage Street, a public way, said portion currently shown on the zoning map of the Town of Stoneham as commercial land being 49.50 and 54.50 feet in width; and including a triangular area bounded on the north by the southerly sideline of Lindenwood Road, a public way, on the west by the easterly sideline of Cottage Street, a public way, and on the east by land now or formerly of Bradford currently shown on the zoning map of the Town of Stoneham as residence B land.

Parcel 3: Beginning at the northerly sideline of the aforementioned Lindenwood Road and running northeasterly approximately 730 feet to the westerly sideline of William Street, a public way, said portion currently shown on the zoning map of the Town of Stoneham as highway business being of variable widths of approximately 50 feet.

Parcel 4: Beginning at the north easterly sideline of the aforementioned William Street and running northeasterly approximately 225 feet to the westerly sideline of Main Street, Route 28, a state highway, said portion shown on the zoning map of the Town of Stoneham as highway business land being 49.50 feet in width.

Parcel 5: Beginning at the easterly sideline of Central Street, a public way, and running in a southeasterly direction approximately 1,570 feet to the northerly sideline of Pomeworth Street, a public way, approximately 788 feet of said portion shown on the zoning map of the Town of Stoneham as commercial land and the remaining portion, approximately 782 feet shown on the zoning map of the town of Stoneham as residence B land and being 49.50 feet in width.

Parcel 6: Beginning at the southerly sideline of the aforementioned Pomeworth Street and running southerly approximately 780 feet to the northerly sideline of Pleasant Street, a public way, said portion shown on the zoning map of the Town of Stoneham as commercial land and being of variable width of approximately 50 feet.

Parcel 7: Beginning at the southerly sideline of the aforementioned Pleasant Street and running southwesterly approximately 340 feet to the northerly sideline of Gould Street, a public way, said portion shown on the zoning map as commercial and being 49.50 feet in width.

Said parcels 1 through 7 containing a total area of 302,550 square feet, more or less and meaning to include herein all property now (or previously) owned by the (MBTA) along the railroad right-of-way between Maple Street and the end of Gould Street in Stoneham, Massachusetts.

Or do anything in relation thereto.

#### The Finance and Advisory Board recommends a FAVORABLE action.

The Finance and Advisory Board has always supported construction of multiple bike paths in Stoneham. First, let us thank the Selectmen, Town Administrator and ad hoc Bike Path Committee for bringing this warrant article to Town Meeting. The intent is to create a special permit overlay district for businesses to use railroad right of way land until construction of a bike path commences or until five years have elapsed.

The special permit component is important. No business may use railroad right of way land and potential bike path space without a public hearing and permission of the Selectmen. This article does not surrender nor vacate potential bike path space.

#### Lease up to Five Years Sections of the Railroad Right of Way:

**Article 12.** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Town Administrator to lease for a period of time no longer than the earlier of the following: (i) the commencement of construction of the former

Railroad Right-of-Way as a bikeway or linear park, or (ii) June 30, 2014, all or any portion of the former Railroad Right-of-Way, as described below to one or more parties, to be used for any purpose(s) allowed under the Town of Stoneham Zoning Bylaws, and to further authorize the Board of Selectmen to petition the General Court (State Legislature), as follows:

**(7)** 

- 1. To authorize the lease all or a portion of the former Railroad Right-of-Way to one or more parties to be used for any purpose(s) allowed under the Town of Stoneham Zoning Bylaws, notwithstanding the provisions of Amended Article 97 of the Massachusetts Constitution.
- 2. To authorize the proceeds from the lease of said Railroad Right-of-Way land to be deposited in a special account to be used at the determination of the Town Administrator for capital improvements to or maintenance or repair of the bikeway or linear park to be constructed on said property. If construction on the bikeway and/or linear park on the former Railroad Right-of-Way land has not begun by July 1, 2014, the funds deposited in said special account may thereafter be used, in the discretion of the Town Administrator, for capital improvements to or the maintenance or repair of other parks or recreational areas in the Town of Stoneham.

Said former Railroad Right-of-Way land being as follows:

- (i) Approximately 6599 linear feet of railroad right-of-way, being shown on plans 128L, 128R, 129L and 129R in plan book 442C on file at the Middlesex South District Registry with accompanying instrument recorded in book 13117, page 113 of December 27, 1976, and further described as follows:
- Parcel 1: Beginning at the northerly sideline of Maple Street, a public way, and running northeasterly approximately 1070 feet to station 60 + 28.3, said portion being 41.25 feet in width. Thence continuing in a northeasterly direction from station 60 + 28.3, approximately 510 feet to the southerly sideline of Montvale Avenue, a public way, said portion currently shown on the zoning map of the Town of Stoneham as commercial land being 33.00 feet in width.

Parcel 2: Beginning at a northerly sideline of the aforementioned Montvale Avenue and running northeasterly approximately 820 feet to the southerly sideline of Cottage Street, a public way, said portion currently shown on the zoning map of the Town of Stoneham as commercial land being 49.50 and 54.50 feet in width; and including a triangular area bounded on the north by the southerly sideline of Lindenwood Road, a public way, on the west by the easterly sideline of Cottage Street, a public way, and on the east by land now or formerly of Bradford currently shown on the zoning map of the Town of Stoneham as residence B land.

- Parcel 3: Beginning at the northerly sideline of the aforementioned Lindenwood Road and running northeasterly approximately 730 feet to the westerly sideline of William Street, a public way, said portion currently shown on the zoning map of the Town of Stoneham as highway business being of variable widths of approximately 50 feet.
- Parcel 4: Beginning at the north easterly sideline of the aforementioned William Street and running northeasterly approximately 225 feet to the westerly sideline of Main Street, Route 28, a state highway, said portion shown on the zoning map of the Town of Stoneham as highway business land being 49.50 feet in width.
- Parcel 5: Beginning at the easterly sideline of Central Street, a public way, and running in a southeasterly direction approximately 1,570 feet to the northerly sideline of Pomeworth Street, a public way, approximately 788 feet of said portion shown on the zoning map of the Town of Stoneham as commercial land and the remaining portion, approximately 782 feet shown on the zoning map of the town of Stoneham as residence B land and being 49.50 feet in width.
- Parcel 6: Beginning at the southerly sideline of the aforementioned Pomeworth Street and running southerly approximately 780 feet to the northerly sideline of Pleasant Street, a public way, said portion shown on the zoning map of the Town of Stoneham as commercial land and being of variable width of approximately 50 feet.

Parcel 7: Beginning at the southerly sideline of the aforementioned Pleasant Street and running southwesterly approximately 340 feet to the northerly sideline of Gould Street, a public way, said portion shown on the zoning map as commercial and being 49.50 feet in width.

**(8)** 

Said parcels 1 through 7 containing a total area of 302,550 square feet, more or less and meaning to include herein all property now (or previously) owned by the (MBTA) along the railroad right-of-way between Maple Street and the end of Gould Street in Stoneham, Massachusetts.

Or do anything in relation thereto.

#### **Board of Selectmen**

#### The Finance and Advisory Board recommends a FAVORABLE action.

The revenues from this article are uncertain and not expected to be significant to a sixty million dollar budget. The Finance and Advisory Board sees tremendous merit to this article beyond an accurate revenue estimate.

A lease is a binding contract of the terms and conditions to occupy railroad right of way land and to exit railroad right of way land. It is expected that when it becomes time to vacate railroad right of way land that the local town businesses will remove materials and temporary structures to the satisfaction of the town.

This article is a step forward for a town bike path.

At the time this booklet was printed the town was in negotiation with the MBTA for the right to issue leases on railroad property. Any agreement must be approved by the MBTA Advisory Board and the Stoneham Selectmen. After town approval, there are several steps to take before a lease can be issued.

#### **Transfer Town Property on Hill Court:**

Article 13. To see if the Town will vote to transfer the care, custody, management and control of a parcel of land, said property being a portion of the Hill Court parking facility and abutting 407 Main street to the Board of Selectmen for the purpose of sale of said land or to grant a 494 square foot access and utility easement on said parcel of land and further authorize the Board of Selectmen and/or Town Administrator to take any action necessary for said sale or grant of said easement or to do

anything in relation thereto. Said parcel being shown as Parcel "A" on a plan entitled, "Plan of Land in Stoneham" dated February 19, 2009 drawn by Benchmark Survey.

# Charles F. Houghton et al 15 Kimball Drive

#### The Finance and Advisory Board recommends a FAVORABLE action.

Behind the Stoneham Theater and some missing .Main Street business structures, there is a municipal parking lot. At one end of this municipal parking lot is a 11 foot by 40 foot scrap of land on the other side of a six foot retaining wall. Finance Board members have visited this location. The land has more potential use to a local business than to the town. The Finance and Advisory Board asks for your support of locally owned businesses and your support of this land sale. The revenues are not going to be substantial. Only one business values the potential for this land. The property is likely to hold construction materials and eventually HVAC units after business renovations are completed.

#### Accept Benjamin Terrace as a Public Road:

**Article 14.** To see if the Town will vote to accept as a Public Way the following way as laid out by the Town Administrator:

Benjamin Terrace, Stoneham, MA from Franklin Street to a cul-de-sac a distance of Four Hundred Thirty and Seventeen Hundredths (430.17) feet more or less.

And authorize the Board of Selectmen or Town Administrator to obtain by purchase, accept as a gift, take by right of eminent domain under provisions of Chapter 79 or 80a of the General Laws, or otherwise acquire any land or interest in land necessary or proper for the acceptance of such ways, and to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds a sum of money for plans, recording fees, legal expense in connection with acceptance of said ways, or do anything in relation thereto.

# Charles F. Houghton et al 15 Kimball Drive

#### The Finance and Advisory Board recommends a FAVORABLE action.

There are ninety private ways in Stoneham. At one time, Town Meeting regularly approved acceptance of these private roads. The Town Engineers have a list of three categories of private roads. One group is non conforming and unlikely to ever be accepted by the town. A middle group has the potential to meet town standards, but some investment is necessary to do so. The third group, which includes Benjamin Terrace, is conforming and requires no construction maintenance for acceptance.

Benjamin Terrace leads into a condominium parking lot, is across Franklin Street from a Dunkin Donuts and is almost opposite Stevens Street.

#### Approve off budget account for Board of Health:

**Article 15.** To see if the Town will vote to increase the Board of Health Revolving Account from \$10,000 to \$25,000 or to do anything in relation thereto.

#### **Board of Health**

#### The Finance and Advisory Board recommends a FAVORABLE action.

The Board of Health offers much more than a flu vaccine program. A revolving account is appropriate for its shots programs. If there is a public illness outbreak or tremendous demand for a certain inoculation, the expenses and revenues will increase.

Revolving account activity is dependent upon demand. The benefits of these services are available to the residents who wish to use them and are not required for all citizens. This article conforms to the town's fiscal policy for off budget special accounts. The benefits of these services are available to the residents who wish to use them.

#### **Approve Off-Budget Account for Recreation Programs:**

Article 16. To see if the Town will vote to reauthorize the revolving fund that was voted under Massachusetts General Law Chapter 44, Section 53E1/2 for the purpose of using receipts generated through registration fees and other revenues for Recreation Programs to pay the costs of the (9)

Recreation program and related expenses, and authorize expenditures by the Recreation Program Coordinator, not to exceed \$200,000 during Fiscal Year 2010 which may be made from such fund. In addition, transfer any balance remaining on June 30, 2009 from the existing Revolving account into the reauthorized Revolving account. Or do anything in relation thereto.

#### **Board of Selectmen**

#### The Finance and Advisory Board recommends a FAVORABLE action.

The only source of revenues for the Parks Program Director, supplies and casual laborers is this revolving account. Stoneham was slow to take the parks, recreation and youth programs off budget. Some communities have multi-million dollar accounts and own buildings for its recreational programs and staff. The Stoneham program still has room to expand. As programs and services become more frequent, the expenses and revenues will rise. The benefits of these services are available to the residents who wish to use them and are not required for all citizens. This article conforms to the town's fiscal policy for off budget special accounts.

#### **Approve Off-Budget Account for Fire Station:**

Article 17. To see if the Town will vote to reauthorize a revolving fund under Massachusetts General Law Chapter 44, Section 53E1/2 for the purpose of using receipts generated from renting space at the Fire Station to pay the utility, cleaning and maintenance costs, and capital improvements of the Fire Station, and authorize expenditures by the Fire Chief, not to exceed \$25,000 during Fiscal Year 2010 which may be made from such fund. In addition, transfer any balance remaining on June 30, 2009 from the existing Revolving account into the reauthorized Revolving account. Or do anything in relation thereto.

#### **Board of Selectmen**

#### The Finance and Advisory Board recommends a UNFAVORABLE action.

The town leases a portion of its fire station property to Action Ambulance. The rental revenue is predictable. The spending of this rent income is not dependent on the rental activity. In fact, the expenditures should be

part of the town annual budget. The Station is need of annual maintenance. Firefighters have volunteered their time to work on the inside of the station and have used the revolving account that was approved last year to purchase materials for cleaning and keeping up a very old building.

This vote is not about the rents and the maintenance. It is about taking a necessary general fund budget item off the budget. The Finance and Advisory Board opposes this action.

#### **Final FY09 Town Budget Changes:**

**Article 18.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds, a sum of money to amend the Fiscal Year 2009 department budgets approved under Article No. 33 of the May 5, 2008 Annual Town Meeting, as amended. Or do anything in relation thereto.

#### **Board of Selectmen**

#### The Finance and Advisory Board withholds its recommendation until Town Meeting.

This article uses over \$150,000 of Town Stabilization money to fund employee overtime. At the time this book was printed the Finance and Advisory Board was undecided about the essential need for such an over expense. The police department represents \$125,000 of this overtime cost overrun. That's also 65% more than the FY09 budgeted amount. No extra funds are allocated in the proposed FY10 budget. The scheduling of contracted overtime for police staffing must change.

The snow and ice overtime in the DPW department depends on the weather and how many extra hours Stevens Street is open. The overtime expenditure is less and clearly a benefit to the residents.

The Unicorn Rink part time salary cost overrun is another problem for management to correct. The funding levels were reduced in half for FY09. Scheduling must change in FY10 to prevent this problem from happening again. The amount is \$18,500 on a budget forecast of \$25,000, a shocking 75% cost overrun.

Please refer to Article #18 – Exhibit A for the full department FY09 year end adjustments on page 33.

#### **Transfer Year End Surplus Revenues:**

**Article 19.** To see if the Town will vote to transfer the total amount of Fiscal Year 2009 Surplus Revenue (Free Cash) to the Stabilization Fund Account immediately after it has been certified by the Department of Revenue; or do anything in relation there to.

John M. DeGeorge et al 148 Franklin Street

#### The Finance and Advisory Board recommends a UNFAVORABLE action.

The Department of Revenue has determined that such an action could be considered a defective action. The Finance and Advisory Board does not pretend to supersede the state's authority. At issue is an interpretation that allocating a future amount of free cash to the Stabilization Account is an appropriation of uncertain future revenues.

#### **Transfer Reserves to Capital Account:**

**Article 20.** To see if the Town will vote to transfer a sum of money from the Stabilization Account to the "Capital Stabilization Account".

**Board of Selectmen** 

#### The Finance and Advisory Board recommends a FAVORABLE action with some restrictions.

The transfer should range between \$250,000 and \$500,000. This is the first transfer to the new capital stabilization account. The Finance and Advisory Board wishes to proceed cautiously. The Selectmen's recommendation is expected to be \$500,000 with the support of the Finance and Advisory Board.

Refer to the Stabilization Chart on page 39

#### **Spend Reserves for Re-valuation of Property costs:**

Article 21. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum of money for the Board of Assessors to pay for the costs of Interim Year Adjustments for all real estate and for an Update of all real estate and personal property. Such funding shall come from the Overlay Surplus Account. Or do anything in relation thereto.

#### **Board of Selectmen**

#### The Finance and Advisory Board recommends a FAVORABLE action.

This article approves an appropriation of \$100,000 to pay the third and final installment of a \$300,000 contract to revalue and recertify all Stoneham taxable real estate.

Massachusetts General Law (MGL) requires that all properties be revalued to current market every three years. MGL also requires that properties be physically inspected (revalued and recertified) at least once every nine years. The requested appropriation is needed to comply with the "revaluation and recertification" required every nine years under MGL. Prior Town Meetings approved two earlier installment payments of \$100,000 each.

Services were provided under a contract with Patriot Properties and, under the terms of the contract, the Town is legally obligated to pay this final installment.

(10)

#### **Set FY10 Whip Hill Budget:**

**Article 22.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds a sum of money for the maintenance and improvement of Whip Hill Park or do anything in relation thereto.

#### **Conservation Commission**

#### The Finance and Advisory Board recommendation was overlooked.

The Finance and Advisory Board did not take up this matter for discussion during its preparation for Town Meeting. In the past the Board has opposed such articles. Amendments can be made when the budget is debated during article 26. This article is unnecessarily redundant.

The Board will make a recommendation on the Town Meeting floor.

#### Allow Retirement Board Members a Stipend:

**Article 23.** To see if the Town will approve the provisions of M.G.L. c. 32 § 20(6), which will allow the elected and appointed members of the Stoneham Retirement Board to receive an annual stipend of three thousand dollars.

#### **Retirement Board**

#### The Finance and Advisory Board recommends a UNFAVORABLE action.

Town Meeting approval is necessary for initial approval to allow stipends to the town retirement board members. After the Town Meeting approval the retirement board sets its annual stipend to any amount up to \$3,000. Half of the 105 retirement systems allow stipends. Income from the Pension Trust Fund does not cover the operating costs, legal and management fees, salaries of employees and unfunded liability. An increase in the retirement system cost will be funded from the general fund.

The potential annual cost is up to \$12,000.

#### **Spend Money for Water Infrastructure Maintenance:**

**Article 24.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds \$300,000 for the purpose of defraying the cost of constructing water mains or replacing or relining existing water mains, hydrant replacement, water meter installations, purchasing equipment, or maintain the water system within the limits of the Town, or do anything in relation thereto.

#### **Board of Selectmen**

#### The Finance and Advisory Board recommends a FAVORABLE action.

To continue the town's successful water maintenance and capital improvement program an appropriation for \$300,000 is requested in this article. The funds come from water bill receipts. The goal is to replace a mile of pipe each year. There are 80 miles of water pipes in the town. This 75 to 80 year cycle is consistent with the useful life of a water pipe.

Work this year is likely to concentrate on East Street, Cherry Avenue and Cardinal Road.

Please keep our system safe and efficient. The town needs to keep a vigilant eye to replace mains, check for leaks, and replace meters.

#### **Spend Money for Sewer Infrastructure Maintenance:**

**Article 25.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds \$300,000 for the purpose of defraying the cost of construction or rehabilitation of sewer mains, manholes, pump stations or appurtenances, purchasing equipment, or maintain the sewer system within the limits of the Town, or do anything in relation thereto.

#### **Board of Selectmen**

#### The Finance and Advisory Board recommends a FAVORABLE action.

The article will authorize \$300,000 of spending from the sewer bill receipts. Cameras and leak tests determine the priority areas to protect public health, and to avoid inflated MWRA charges. MWRA charges communities for the volume of flow in a sewer system. The more closed Stoneham's system is to infiltration and inflow, the less likely we are to incur unnecessary charges.

Some money will be used this year to rehab the Citation Avenue and Fallon Road pumping stations. Both are 40 years old and in need of attention.

#### **Establish FY10 Town Budget:**

**Article 26.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate from taxation or by transfer from available funds, such sums as may be necessary to defray Town charges for the ensuing year, including debt and interest and a reserve fund, or do anything in relation thereto.

#### **Board of Selectmen**

FY09 Town Meeting Appropriation		FY10 Finance and Advisory Board Recommendation	% +/-	
Personnel	\$9,675,849	\$9,647,796	-0.3%	
Operating	\$50,921,159	\$50,494,191	-0.8%	
Total	\$60,597,008	\$60,141,987	-0.8%	

#### The Finance and Advisory Board recommends a FAVORABLE action.

Department appropriations follow the warrant in this publication. A one page summary exists on page 36.

Many town department salaries reflect FY09 to FY10 increases because of the timing of the FY09 pay increase. FY09 included partial year increases and FY10 includes the first full year increase. Many town employees received job grade reclassifications in lieu of a FY10 salary increase.

At the time of Town Meeting, unions were negotiating contracts that expire on June 30<sup>th</sup>.

Health Insurance has been consolidated into a new department. The Finance and Advisory Board removed the department Health Insurance appropriations from the town departments in FY09 to assure a fair comparison of FY09 to FY10 budget changes.

And you are directed to have five hundred (500) copies of the Warrant printed and to serve the same by posting duly attested copies in at least ten (10) public places in the town seven (7) days at least before the time for holding said meeting and by causing a duly attested copy of the said Warrant to be published in some newspaper in the Town, the publication to be not less than three (3) days before said meeting.

The remaining copies you are to have at the place and time of said meeting as aforesaid.

Hereof fail not and make due return of this Warrant with your doings thereon to the Town Clerk at the time and place aforesaid.

Given unto our hands this 10th day of March in the year of our Lord two thousand nine.

<b>Board of Selectmen</b>
John F. DePinto, Chairman
Richard S. Gregorio

	R. Paul Rotondi
	Robert W. Sweeney
md	Frank Vallarelli

#### **FY10 Department Budget Summaries**,

Fiscal 2009 was restated for the transfer of Health Insurance into Dept 912

# MODERATOR Michael Rotondi

Dept #114

	FY09 Town Meeting Appropriation	FY10 Finance and Advisory Board Recommendation	% +/-	TOWN MEETING VOTE
Personnel	\$200	\$200	0%	
Operating	\$20	\$20	0%	
Total	\$220	\$220	0%	

SERVICE: The Moderator presides at Town Meeting and makes appointments to the Finance and Advisory Board and sometimes other committees.

Staffing: The Moderator is elected.

Service Change: None.

# SELECTMEN Muriel Doherty

Dept #122 279-2680

	<u> </u>			
	FY09 Town Meeting Appropriation	FY10 Finance and Advisory Board Recommendation	% +/-	TOWN MEETING VOTE
Personnel	\$85,059	\$82,807	-2.6%	
Operating	\$13,797	\$9,947	-28%	
Total	\$98,856	\$92,754	-6.2%	

SERVICE: The Board of Selectmen is the chief policy setting office of the Town of Stoneham. The Board serves as the policy making body of the Town, appoints the Town Administrator, Town Counsel, Town Accountant and various multi-member boards, an acts as the Liquor Licensing Authority.

Staffing: Selectmen are elected. Office staff of one full time person is hired by the Selectmen.

Service Change: Reduced printing and advertising costs

# TOWN ADMINISTRATOR David Ragucci

Dept #123 279-2600

	FY09 Town Meeting Appropriation	FY10 Finance and Advisory Board Recommendation	% +/-	TOWN MEETING VOTE
Personnel	\$287,074	\$268,598	-6.4%	
Operating	\$41,500	\$45,000	8.4%	
Total	\$328,574	\$313,598	-4.6%	

SERVICE: The Town Administrator is Stoneham's Chief Operating Officer responsible for the proper administration and supervision of the Town's departments. The office supervises the collective bargaining and affirmative action efforts of the Town. In accordance to IRS regulations, a car allowance is included in wages.

Staffing: The Town Administrator is hired by the Board of Selectmen. The rest of the Town Administrator's staff is hired by the Town Administrator.

Service Change: No salary increases in FY10. Employees reclassified. One employee's hours were reduced by 33%. The increase in operating is due to centralized Town Hall purchasing.

# FINANCE and ADVISORY BOARD Financeboard@ci.stoneham.ma.us

Dept #131

	FY09 Town Meeting	FY10 Finance and Advisory	% +/-	
	Appropriation	Board Recommendation		TOWN MEETING VOTE
Total	90	0.2	0%	

SERVICE: The Finance and Advisory Board makes recommendations to the voters on various articles. The Board also has the authority to approve transfer requests from the Reserve Fund to the various Town Departments.

Staffing: The volunteer board is appointed by the Town Moderator and relies upon Town Hall staff for support services. The Town Administrator authorizes requests to expend funds.

Service Change: None

RESERVE FUND Dept #132

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	FY09	FY10	% +/-	
	Town Meeting Appropriation	Finance and Advisory Board Recommendation		TOWN MEETING VOTE
Operating	\$20,897	\$0		
Total	\$20,897	\$0		

SERVICE: The Reserve Fund, under the direction of the Finance and Advisory Board, provides transfer funds for emergency or unforeseen expenditures by the Town's Departments. The balance is not sufficient to fund an emergency. Until the Reserve Fund is funded as recommended by the Fiscal Policy Guideline of the town, a special Town Meeting will appropriate emergency funding.

Service Change: Non-conforming to the Town Fiscal Policy Guideline and a problem fro FY10, which recommends a range between \$180,000 to \$300,000

ACCOUNTANT Dept #135 Ron Florino 279-2690

	FY09 Town Meeting Appropriation	FY10 Finance and Advisory Board Recommendation	% +/-	TOWN MEETING VOTE
Personnel	\$205,153	\$197,137	-3.9%	
Operating	\$2,600	\$1,550	-40%	
Total	\$207,753	\$198,687	-4.4%	

SERVICE: Accounting and auditing functions are provided by the Accountant's Office. Financial reporting of all Town Departments is also performed by this office.

Staffing: The Town Accountant is hired by the Board of Selectmen. The staff of the Accounting department is hired by the Town Administrator

Service Change: Negotiated salary with no increase is included. Employees have been reclassified. The assistant accountant position has had a 20% reduction in hours. Reductions in in-state travel reimbursements.

# ASSESSORS Dept #141 Brian Macdonald 279-2640

	FY09 Town Meeting Appropriation	FY10 Finance and Advisory Board Recommendation	% +/-	TOWN MEETING VOTE
Personnel	\$135,500	\$141,561	4.5%	
Operating	\$4,600	\$4,600	0%	
Total	\$140,100	\$146,161	4.3%	

SERVICE: This Department is responsible for valuation of all real estate and personal property. The State requires revaluation of all taxable property every three years. This Department also keeps the legal record of the correct owners of each property.

Staffing: The Assessor is hired by the elected Board of Assessors. The staff is hired by the Town Administrator.

Service Change: Negotiated salary with no increase is included. Employees have been reclassified

TREASURER Dept #145
Diane Murphy 279-2660

	FY09 Town Meeting Appropriation	FY10 Finance and Advisory Board Recommendation	% +/-	TOWN MEETING VOTE
Personnel	\$185,832	\$194,131	4.5%	
Operating	\$26,880	\$18,630	-30%	
Total	\$212,712	\$212,761	0%	

SERVICE: Cash receipt, management and investment of Town funds are provided by this office. The tax and utility billing/collection functions are also carried out by this office. Empowered to take property from delinquent owners. The treasurer is the town receiver general of all funds.

Staffing: The Treasurer and staff are hired by the Town Administrator

Service Change: Negotiated salary with no increase is included. Employees have been reclassified. Reductions in professional support services.

# TOWN COUNSEL William Solomon

Dept #151 438-4543

	FY09 Town Meeting Appropriation	FY10 Finance and Advisory Board Recommendation	% +/-	TOWN MEETING VOTE
Personnel	\$100,516	\$101,264	0.7%	
Operating	\$17,225	\$7,725	-55%	
Total	\$117,741	\$108,989	-7.4%	

SERVICE: Legal advice and services are provided to the Board of Selectmen.

Staffing: Town Counsel is hired by the Selectmen

Service Change: Negotiated salary with no increase is included. Office supplies and most operating costs will not be paid by the town.

# MIS/GIS Dept #155 Tom Cicatelli 279-26xx

	FY09 Town Meeting Appropriation	FY10 Finance and Advisory Board Recommendation	% +/-	TOWN MEETING VOTE
Personnel	\$61,361	\$64,119	4.5%	
Operating	\$116,953	\$110,953	-5.1%	
Total	\$178,314	\$175,072	-1.8%	

SERVICE: This Department provides the overall planning and administration of the Town's email servers, network, web page, accounting software and Geographic Information Systems.

Staffing: The CIO is hired by the Town Administrator

Service Change: Negotiated salary with no increase is included. Some salary funding comes from cable grant money.

# TOWN CLERK John Hanright

Dept #161 279-2650

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	FY09 Town Meeting Appropriation	FY10 Finance and Advisory Board Recommendation	% +/-	TOWN MEETING VOTE
Personnel	\$130,091	\$133,041	2.3%	
Operating	\$5,700	\$3,700	-35%	
Total	\$135,791	\$136,741	0.7%	

SERVICE: This office provides services in the area of registration of Voters, Town census, Town Meeting, vital statistics, Town Reports, licenses, permits and passports. The Town Clerk is allowed to set the fees.

Staffing: The Town Clerk is elected. The office staff is hired by the town administrator.

Service Change: Negotiated salary with no increase is included.

# ELECTIONS John Hanright

Dept #162 279-2650

	FY09 Town Meeting Appropriation	FY10 Finance and Advisory Board Recommendation	% +/-	TOWN MEETING VOTE
Personnel	\$36,798	\$39,140	6%	
Operating	\$35,900	\$22,250	-38%	
Total	\$72,698	\$61,390	-15.6%	

SERVICE: Operated by the Town Clerk, this office administers the State and local election process as well as voter registration.

Staffing: The Town Clerk is elected. The office staff is hired by the Town Administrator. The Board of Selectmen appoints registrars, who receive a small stipend. There are no health insurance costs.

Service Change: The decrease reflects the change in elections between FY09 and Fy10. There are no census costs in this budget, because the numbers are yet known. Adjustments will be made in October.

WHIP HILL Dept #172
Jim Previte 665-2696

	FY09 Town Meeting Appropriation	FY10 Finance and Advisory Board Recommendation	% +/-	TOWN MEETING VOTE
Personnel	\$36,737	\$0	-100%	
Operating	\$10,950	\$10,950	0%	
Total	\$47,687	\$10,950	-77%	

SERVICE: This Department has been designated for the administration and management of the property known as Whip Hill. The Department assists the Conservation Commission with environmental monitoring. This is a single person department. The person has become the Town Arborist and Conservation Agent. Whip Hill Park is a 30 acre property and a 20 room mansion that Angie Crockett gifted to the Town in 1968. Eleven other parcels make up the remaining 44 acres of conservation land in Stoneham. The Whip Hill Trust funds the utilities and upkeep costs of the Whip Hill area. The town funds the salary and health insurance of the care taker.

The Whip Hill property is the property of the town. Trust income is available as long as the conditions of the trust are met. Among these conditions is adequate support from the town for maintenance and care of Whip Hill. This budget appropriates \$10,950 for operating expenses of the building. The source of that money is a gift from the Conservation Commission.

The decrease in personnel reflects the administrative transfer of the Whip Hill caretaker to the Department of Public Works (DPW). The custodian lives at Whip Hill and is responsible for maintaining the property.

This transfer is being made for the following reasons:

- 1. Efficiency: There is considerable downtime, especially in the winter, for the caretaker. This downtime could be productively used by the DPW. In addition, DPW workers could also be assigned to work at Whip Hill doing key projects or during seasonal peaks.
- 2. The caretaker needs to join a DPW union to perform work ordinarily performed by DPW union members. As a result, and to prevent possible union grievances, the person is transferred to the DPW. The work is performed is independent of where the position is budgeted. Staffing: The caretaker is hired by the Town Administrator

Service Change: The salary is paid in the DPW budget. Maintenance and care will meet the requirements of the Whip Hill trust Agreement

#### **COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, APPEALS**

De	pt	#1	82

	FY09 Town Meeting Appropriation	FY10 Finance and Advisory Board Recommendation	% +/-	TOWN MEETING VOTE
Personnel	\$28,747	\$28,301	-1.6%	
Operating	\$1,650	\$1,160	-30%	
Total	\$30,397	\$29,461	-3%	

SERVICE: This Department serves as a consolidation of Planning, grant writing assistance and Conservation Commission. It provides the expertise to support the Planning Board, Board of Appeals and Conservation Commission.

Staffing: The Planning Board is elected and not compensated. The Board of Selectmen appoints the volunteer Conservation Commission and the volunteer Board of Appeals. Clerical support is hired by the Town Administrator. There are no health insurance costs. Office Assistants are part-time positions

Service Change: No salary increase in FY10. The hours of the Conservation clerk have been reduced by 33%

#### **TOWN HALL MAINTENANCE**

Dept #192

	FY09 Town Meeting Appropriation	FY10 Finance and Advisory Board Recommendation	% +/-	TOWN MEETING VOTE
Personnel	\$1,000	\$1,000	0%	
Operating	\$94,112	\$94,112	0%	
Total	\$95,112	\$95,112	0%	

SERVICE: This Department provides maintenance and custodial services for Town Hall. The shift from personnel to operating reflects an effort to outsource some services.

Staffing: This service is out sourced.

Service Change: none

#### TRAFFIC DIRECTORS

Dept #211

TIVALLE DIL			DCPt # ZII	
	FY09 Town Meeting Appropriation	FY10 Finance and Advisory Board Recommendation	% +/-	TOWN MEETING VOTE
Personnel	\$118,872	\$119,553	0.6%	
Operating	\$4,000	\$2,000	-50%	
Total	\$122,872	\$121,553	-1.1%	

SERVICE: Traffic Directors serve at various locations adjacent to schools to assist the children in crossing at intersections. In addition they possess the same traffic control authority with respect to vehicles as do Police Officers.

Staffing: There are 15 traffic directors hired by the Town Administrator. There are no health insurance costs.

Service Change: No salary increase in FY10. Eliminate courses and parking enforcement.

# POLICE Chief Richard Bongiorno

	FY09 Town Meeting Appropriation	FY10 Finance and Advisory Board Recommendation	% +/-	TOWN MEETING VOTE
Personnel	\$2,914,793	\$2,900,701	-0.5%	
Operating	\$215,345	\$197,495	-8.3%	
Total	\$3,130,138	\$3,098,196	-1.0%	

SERVICE: Stoneham's twenty-four hour per day paid police force provides crime prevention, juvenile services, traffic control and patrol service within the Town boundaries.

Staffing: Police are hired by the Town Administrator

Service Change: No salary increases in FY10. Three new hires were introduced late in FY09. The town is using federal grant money to build a force of 39 Police.

#### **PUBLIC SAFETY DISPATCH**

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Dept #210

438-1215

	FY09 Town Meeting Appropriation	FY10 Finance and Advisory Board Recommendation	% +/-	TOWN MEETING VOTE
Personnel	\$297,709	\$308,429	3.6%	
Operating	\$4,870	\$4,870	0%	
Total	\$302,579	\$313,299	3.5%	

SERVICE: This department provides funding for civilian dispatchers for the Police and Fire Departments. Dispatch is a 24/7 operation. There is one head dispatcher and five dispatchers.

Staffing: Dispatchers are hired by the Town Administrator.

Service Change: No salary increase in Fy10. Employees are reclassified.

# FIRE Dept #220 Chief Joe Rolli 438-0127

	FY09 Town Meeting Appropriation	FY10 Finance and Advisory Board Recommendation	% +/-	TOWN MEETING VOTE
Personnel	\$2,265,065	\$2,246,233	0.8%	
Operating	\$141,303	\$138,503	2.0%	
Total	\$2,406,368	\$2,384,736	0.9%	

SERVICE: This department provides 24 hour fire protection to the citizens of Stoneham. In addition to extinguishing fires, the department performs various services; including review of site plans, fire prevention and inspection programs, fire alarm inspections and emergency services.

Staffing: The Town Administrator hires all Fire Department personnel.

Service Change: Two fire fighters have been hired with federal grant money that is phased out over the next few years. Every tour has a balanced staff.

#### **EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT**

Dept #29:
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	FY09 Town Meeting Appropriation	FY10 Finance and Advisory Board Recommendation	% +/-	TOWN MEETING VOTE
Personnel	\$5,000	\$2,000	-60%	
Total	\$5,000	\$2,000	-60%	

SERVICE: A town resident and non-fire personnel serves as the new Emergency Management Agency Director. This office works closely with the Police and Fire Auxiliaries and State Offices in time of emergencies.

Staffing: a stipend Service Change: None

# INSPECTION SERVICES Chervl Noble

Dept #241 279-2670

01101 / 110210				
	FY09 Town Meeting Appropriation	FY10 Finance and Advisory Board Recommendation	% +/-	TOWN MEETING VOTE
Personnel	\$160,937	\$164,865	2.4%	
Operating	\$7,750	\$7,900	1.9%	
Total	\$168,687	\$172,765	2.4%	

SERVICE: This department coordinates the inspectional services of the construction and maintenance of buildings.

Staffing: Inspectors and staff are hired by the Town Administrator. Some stipend positions are shared with other towns.

Service Change: No salary increase for FY10

#### TOWN SCHOOLS Les Olson

Dept #300 279-3826

	FY09 Town Meeting Appropriation	FY10 Finance and Advisory Board Recommendation	% +/-	TOWN MEETING VOTE
Total	\$21,931,844	\$22,163,000	1.1%	

The Stoneham Public School system provides free educational services for half day Kindergarten and grades 1 through 12 to the children of Stoneham residents. Should out-of-district placements be required these are also provided at no cost. The school also operates pre-school programs, after school programs and all day kindergarten. These programs involve either special eligibility requirements or tuition payments.

SERVICE: The \$22,163,000 requested for FY10 was approved by a 4-0 vote of the School Committee on April 1, 2009.

The budget request for FY10 provides for a small enhancement of the school system, primarily through the addition of 3 teachers in the Middle School. Adding these teachers is one of the first steps towards reinstating the "team" teaching structure in the Middle School. Offsetting this enhancement at the Middle School is an increase in class size in grade 3 at the Colonial Park School to higher than desired level.

The School Department is able to provide a slightly higher overall level of service with a budget increase of \$231,156 or 1.1% primarily due to an expected decline of \$235,000 in utility costs. A continued emphasis on improving operations and redeploying personnel generates additional cost savings, as do retirements (experienced teachers are replaced by lower cost inexperienced teachers). However, the favorable impact of improved operations and retirements is offset by higher salaries resulting from step increases and salary scale increases.

In FY10 the cost of out-of district placements is essentially flat with FY09, different from prior years when these costs grew rapidly.

# MINUTEMAN VOCATIONAL SCHOOLS Dr. Edward Bouquillon

Dept #398 861-6500

	FY09 Town Meeting Appropriation	FY10 Finance and Advisory Board Recommendation	% +/-	TOWN MEETING VOTE
Total	\$38,000	\$78,109	105%	

SERVICE: The Minuteman Vocational School provides training not available at the NE vocational training to one Stoneham student.

The Town pays an assessment for the transportation and participation of Stoneham students. This appropriation, if insufficient, must be increased in October. At this moment it is \$5,891 underfunded.

Service Change: None. The increased appropriation is due to more students attending the school

# NORTHEAST METRO VOCATIONAL SCHOOL Pat Cronin

Dept #399 246-0810

	FY09 Town Meeting Appropriation	FY10 Finance and Advisory Board Recommendation	% +/-	TOWN MEETING VOTE
Total	\$632,978	\$607,869	-4%	

SERVICE: The Northeast Regional Vocational School provides vocational training to 46 Stoneham students next year. This is the same number attending this year. The Town pays an assessment for the transportation and participation of Stoneham students. The intent of the vote is to reject the school budget and force a lower assessment. This appropriation, if insufficient, must be increased in October. At this moment, it is \$73,691 underfunded.

Service Change: None

#### PUBLIC WORKS Dept #400 Bob Grover 438-0760

	FY09 Town Meeting Appropriation	FY10 Finance and Advisory Board Recommendation	% +/-	TOWN MEETING VOTE
Personnel	\$730,806	\$738,218	1.0%	
Operating	\$2.359.405	\$2,482,405	5.2%	
Total	\$3,090,211	\$3,220,623	4.2%	

SERVICE: The Public Works Department provides for the upkeep of the Town's roads, roadside lighting, parks, plowing, cemetery, refuse collection, curbside recycling, repair of the Town's motorized equipment minus the Fire Department, gasoline for town vehicles, engineering services and storm drainage.

Staffing: The DPW Director and staff are hired by the Town Administrator

Service Change: No salary increase. A position was transferred from Whip Hill. Employees reclassified. An increase is assumed for the new solid waste pickup and processing contracts.

#### SEWER Dept #440 Bob Grover 438-0760

	FY09 Town Meeting Appropriation	FY10 Finance and Advisory Board Recommendation	% +/-	TOWN MEETING VOTE
Personnel	\$425,229	\$441,743	3.9%	
Operating	\$91,825	\$91,825	0%	
MWRA Charge	\$3,800,000	\$4,018,769	5.8%	
Total	\$4,317,054	\$4,552,337	5.5%	

SERVICE: Operation and Maintenance of the Sewer Division and Massachusetts Water Resources Authority (MWRA) Sewer charges are included in this account.

Service Change: No salary increases for Fy10. Employees have been reclassified.

#### WATER Dept #445 Bob Grover 438-0760

	FY09 Town Meeting Appropriation	FY10 Finance and Advisory Board Recommendation	% +/-	TOWN MEETING VOTE
Personnel	\$444,211	\$455,359	2.5%	
Operating	\$173,650	\$180,650	4%	
MWRA Charge	\$2,712,000	\$2,686,187	-1%	
Total	\$3,329,861	\$3,322,196	-0.2%	

SERVICE: Water distribution and supply are budgeted in this account. Stoneham purchases water from the MWRA, but maintains its own distribution system. In addition, this department is responsible for the Maintenance and repair of the fire hydrants in the Town of Stoneham.

Service Change: No salary increases for Fy10. Employees have been reclassified.

#### **PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES**

**Bob Bracey** 

Dept #510 279-2621

	FY09 Town Meeting Appropriation	FY10 Finance and Advisory Board Recommendation	% +/-	TOWN MEETING VOTE
Personnel	\$143,214	\$134,307	-6.2%	
Operating	\$2,140	\$1,840	-14%	
Total	\$145,354	\$136,147	-6.3%	

SERVICE: This department provides Public Health to the residents of the Town of Stoneham including flu clinics, health code compliance and dumpster permits. The health officer gets a stipend for being the town animal control officer.

Staffing: Inspectors and Nurses are hired by the Town Administrator and supervised by the elected Board of Health members. A car allowance exits. The budget will fund two part time office assistants, one part time nurse and a full time Health Officer.

Service Change: No salary change in FY10. A vacant nurse position has been eliminated. Employees have been reclassified.

SENIOR CENTER Dept #541

<u> </u>				
	FY09 Town Meeting	FY10 Finance and Advisory	% +/-	TOWN MEETING WOTE
	Appropriation	Board Recommendation		TOWN MEETING VOTE
Operating	\$30,000	\$30,000	0%	
Total	\$30,000	\$30,000	0%	

SERVICE: This department provides Senior Citizen services to residents in the Stoneham area. The appropriation is a seed to transfer the functions to a non-profit agency.

Staffing: None. Stoneham is one of the first communities to out-source its Senior Center. While many communities are closing their facility, Stoneham has found a way to manage and keeps its Senior center doors open.

Service Change: None

#### RECREATION Christine DelRossi

Dept #542 279-2630

SERVICE: The Recreation Department provides a neighborhood based Summer Youth Program, a Drama Program, the Open Gym Program, other recreational programs and administers field permitting. Recreation Department is no longer funded by the general fund. It is dependent upon a revolving fund of revenue. As a result, programs whose revenues do not support the underlying expenses should be dropped. To date the department is not self-sufficient and is dependent upon fund raisers and donations. Article #16 provides the accounting for these services.

Staffing: The Town Administrator hires the Youth Commissioner and seasonal staff

Service Change: No salary change.

#### VETERAN SERVICES Carl Saunders

Dept #543 279-2664

	FY09 Town Meeting Appropriation	FY10 Finance and Advisory Board Recommendation	% +/-	TOWN MEETING VOTE
Personnel	\$10,455	\$10,455	0%	
Operating	\$79,050	\$79,050	0%	
Total	\$89,505	\$89,505	0%	

SERVICE: This department provides services and goods to resident veterans. Expenses are heavily reimbursed a year later by the State. Staffing: This is a one person department. The Veteran Agent is hired by the Town Administrator

Service Change: No salary increase for FY10 is expected. The funding for veteran supplies and benefits were over spent in Fy09. No accommodation has been made for this increase in the FY10 budget.

# TOWN LIBRARY Mary Todd

Dept #610 438-1324

	FY09 Town Meeting Appropriation	FY10 Finance and Advisory Board Recommendation	% +/-	TOWN MEETING VOTE
Personnel	\$494,268	\$501,653	1.5%	
Operating	\$171,474	\$117,950	-31%	
Total	\$665,742	\$619,603	-7%	

SERVICE: The Library provides research and lending services for both adult and children. Moreover, the Library belongs to the North of Boston Library Exchange, a consortium of twenty-four public and college libraries; the holdings of which are available to Stoneham residents via on-line bibliographic retrieval. The Library provides complete public Internet access through a T-1 link to NOBLE's headquarters in Danvers.

The Library Book Budget has been under funded for several years. Library Trustees are depleting all trust fund and grant account balances.

Staffing: The Library Director is hired by the Trustees. Library staff is hired by the Town Administrator. Volunteer Library Trustees are elected.

Service Change: Trust funds will be used to satisfy the state requirement for materials spending. This is a one year solution. The library will remain open for 51 hours. No salary increases for FY10 are expected.

#### UNICORN RECREATION Rick Arzillo, Groundskeeper Lou Chiulli, Arena Manager

Dept #630 438-9219 279-2629

	FY09 Town Meeting Appropriation	FY10 Finance and Advisory Board Recommendation	% +/-	TOWN MEETING VOTE
Personnel	\$371,222	\$372,981	0.5%	
Operating	\$652,350	\$580,321	-11.0%	
Total	\$1,023,572	\$953,302	-6.9%	

SERVICE: Unicorn Recreation maintains two nine-hole golf courses and an ice arena offering a variety of related activities for the public. For FY08 the Unicorn Recreation revenues totaled \$1,255,658, just short of its \$1,300,000 forecast. Any combination of rainy weekend and daylight weather, the slumping economy and a disinterested trend toward golf contribute toward lagging golf revenues. The 70 acres of golf courses were open for parts of every month, but January and February.

Staffing: Unicorn personnel are hired by the Town Administrator. A grounds keeper and two employees make up the golf staff. A rink manager and assistant comprise the rink staff. A shared full time office assistant exists.

Service Change: No salary changes are expected for FY10. Reduced watering and fertilizing at the golf course.

# MATURING DEBT & INTEREST Ron Florino

Dept #710 & 750 279-2650

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	FY09	FY10	% +/-	
	Town Meeting	Finance and Advisory		TOWN MEETING NOTE
	Appropriation	Board Recommendation		TOWN MEETING VOTE
Total	\$4,868,555	\$4,909,425	0.8%	

SERVICE: This account provides necessary installment payments of debt principal and interest for expenditures which were bonded. The entire debt schedule is included in this booklet.

Service Change: None

## NON-CONTRIBUTORY PENSIONS Karen DeAngelis

Dept #910 279-2635

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	FY09 Town Meeting	FY10 Finance and Advisory	% +/-	
	Appropriation	<b>Board Recommendation</b>		TOWN MEETING VOTE
Total	\$56,500	\$56,500	0%	

SERVICE: Pensioned employees employed prior to 1939 are paid from this account.

Staffing: Retirement Board members are elected. The Retirement Board office personnel are hired by the Retirement Board. Service Change: Salaries, benefits and working conditions are negotiated with the Retirement Board

#### CONTRIBUTORY PENSIONS Karen DeAngelis

Dept #911 279-2635

	FY09 Town Meeting Appropriation	FY10 Finance and Advisory Board Recommendation	% +/-	TOWN MEETING VOTE
Total	\$3,638,123	\$3,685,346	1.3%	

SERVICE: This account includes operational expenses and funds to pay retired town employees. No current information was available when this booklet was prepared. The unfunded Pension Liability accounts for most of the cost. The custodial fee for a \$60M fund is about \$360,000. The cost of operations of the Retirement Board is about \$235,000. Property Taxes are the revenue source to compensate for the gap of investment income after operation expenses. The Town's pension funds were deposited with PRIT, the state Pension Reserve Investment Trust, in 2000. To date this has been a success, a \$14M difference.

	2006	2005	2004	2003	2002	2001	2000	1999	1998	1997
PRIT	16.7%	12.7%	14.4%	26.3%	-8.9%	-5.3%	-1.2%	20.8%	15.8%	18.4%
Stoneham	16.7%	12.7%	14.4%	26.2%	-8.9%	-5.2%	-0.5%	15.7%	13.3%	16.5%

Staffing: Retirement Board members are elected. The Retirement Board office personnel are hired by the Retirement Board. Service Change: Salaries, benefits and working conditions are negotiated with the Retirement Board.

UNCLASSIFIED Dept #919

Davia Raga	CCI			
	FY09	FY10	% +/-	
	<b>Town Meeting</b>	Finance and Advisory		
	Appropriation	<b>Board Recommendation</b>		TOWN MEETING VOTE
Total	\$1,178,938	\$1,131,969	-4%	

SERVICE: There is an expected reduction in the cost of workers comp insurance. This department also contains the town's matching FICA and Medicare payments, Fire and Police medical exam costs, the costs of the Town Audit and Town Hall postage, general liability insurance and employee life insurance premiums, and non-school employee unemployment costs.

Service Change: None

# HEALTH INSURANCE David Ragucci

Dept #912

	FY09  Town Meeting Appropriation	FY10 Finance and Advisory Board Recommendation	% +/-	TOWN MEETING VOTE
Active Town Employees	\$1,592,813	\$1,430,401	-10.2%	
Retired Town Employees	\$1,530,491	\$1,403,670	-8.3%	
Active School Teachers	\$2,947,502	\$2,716,346	-7.8%	
Retired School Teachers	\$1,142,384	\$1,115,509	-2.35%	
Other Employee Benefits	\$0	\$209,600	n/a	
Total	\$7,213,190	\$6,875,526	-4.7%	

SERVICE: This is the town costs for health insurance benefits. Health Insurance expense declines from FY09 to FY10 because the Town is joining the Group Insurance Commission (GIC) on 7/1/09. The GIC is a state commission created in 1955. It provides health insurance and other employee benefits to more than 286,000 state retirees, employees, and dependents. It also services a number of municipalities.

Stoneham is joining the GIC because the GIC provides more diverse insurance options at generally lower costs than Stoneham can provide. Current options include an indemnity plan, PPO (preferred provider plan) and multiple HMO plans. It also offers other plans, including disability, vision and dental plans.

The Finance and Advisory Board believes joining the GIC will save the Town approximately \$800,000 in FY10 compared to FY09. It required significant effort to join the GIC. The Town had to (a) adopt MGL Chapter 32, Section 18 (requiring Medicare eligible retirees to join Medicare), (b) adopt the relevant section of state law giving Stoneham the option of joining the GIC, and (c) negotiate intensively with Town unions and retirees—state law requires approval of Town unions and retirees to join the GIC.

The new items in FY10 – Medicare Part B reimbursement for \$180,500 and a Flexible Spending Plan for \$29,100 – were part of the negotiation process.

In FY10 the Town will contribute 85% of health insurance premiums. If age 65 or over all Medicare eligible employees are required to enroll in Medicare. The Town will pay 85% of a Medicare supplement plan and \$500 toward the cost of Medicare Part B. The budget assumes the following enrollment in its health insurance plans:

144 Active Town Employees

278 Active School Employees

319 Retired Town Employees and non-teaching School Employees

174 Retired Teachers

Service Change: Conversion to GIC. Employee contributions for health premium costs are lower.

#### **Annual Health Policy Costs**

	Individual	Town	Total
Tufts Navigator	<u>Pays</u>	<u>Pays</u>	<u>Cost</u>
Family	944	5,347	6,290
Individual	2,256	12,785	15,042
Retiree			
Tufts Preferred	331.92	1,881	2,213
Tufts Complement	589.44	3,340	3,930
Harvard Pilgrim	640.2	3,628	4,268

#### **CAPITAL EQUIPMENT**

Dept #918

David Ragucci

	FY09 Town Meeting Appropriation	FY10 Finance and Advisory Board Recommendation	% +/-	TOWN MEETING VOTE
Total	\$489,000	\$0	-100%	

SERVICE: This account includes funds for selected capital equipment for all departments including the Town Schools. An appropriation will be debated at the October Special Town Meeting.

Service Change: The operating budget does not provide for any capital spending.

#### **NON-DEPARTMENTAL**

Dept #920

**David Ragucci** 

	FY09 Town Meeting Appropriation	FY10 Finance and Advisory Board Recommendation	% +/-	TOWN MEETING VOTE
Total	\$36,085	\$36,085	0%	

SERVICE: Assistance for expenditures relating to other agencies, committees and/or commissions with whom the Town participates. Service Change: None

# MAY 4, 2009 ANNUAL TOWN MEETING ARTICLE #18--(EXHIBIT A)

#### Adjust the following budgets:

	Net amount	\$124,647	(\$124,647)	\$0	
918	Capital		(\$241,000)	(\$241,000)	Leaves \$175,000 for Capital needs
631	Arena	\$18,500		\$18,500	part time help needed due to emp on military leave and cleanup during renovations (Arena Boards & Ceiling)
543	Veterans		\$30,000	\$30,000	more claims
510	Board of Health	(\$10,000)		(\$10,000)	vacant position
400	Public Works Department	\$8,897	\$100,000	\$108,897	\$340k Snow & Ice Deficit (offset with savings of \$50K from vacant position, \$30K from FEMA Grant, and \$150K from savings in the Trash Budget)
241	Building Department	\$2,750	(\$2,750)	\$0	temporary help needed while emp out sick
220	Fire	(\$40,000)	\$10,000	(\$30,000)	Transfer to Veh & Pub Safety Supply Accts
211	Traffic Directors	\$8,000		\$8,000	Parking Enforcement
210	Police	\$125,000		\$125,000	Overtime Shortfall
172	Whip Hill	\$7,000		\$7,000	Per SCEA Agreement
151	Town Counsel	\$3,000		\$3,000	Change From Ind to Fam Health (4 mos. @ \$750/mo.)
135	Town Accountant	(\$10,000)		(\$10,000)	savings from employee on unpaid leave
132	Finance Board Reserve Fund		(\$20,897)	(\$20,897)	\$0 remain in the Reserve Fund
123	Town Administrator	\$10,000		\$10,000	Additional Hrs. needed for Benefits Coordinator
122	Selectmen	\$1,500		\$1,500	New enrollment on Individual Health 4/1/09
#	Department	Salaries	Operating	Total	
Dept.					

In addition, adjust the Fiscal Year 2009 Revenues to be raised or transferred from available funds as follows:

#### **Revenue of the Current Year:**

Reduced State Aid	(\$450,741)	State 9C Reductions to Additional Asst & Lottery
Transfer from Stabilization	\$450,741	

# Town of Stoneham DEBT SERVICE SCHEDULE As of June 30, 2008

		AS	or June 30, 2	000				
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015-2029	Total
Golf Course(Par 3)-Construction	61,245	57,438	55,313	53,188	51,063			278,245
Senior Center Renovation	101,327	94,444	86,256	83,175	80,200	77,225	140,631	663,258
Town Common	80,416	77,909	75,402	72,830	70,191	67,552	297,836	742,135
Police Station	338,615	328,060	317,504	306,671	295,559	284,448	1,254,127	3,124,984
Town Drainage	78,663	76,413	74,788	73,038	71,163	69,163	478,700	921,925
Street Lights	26,938	25,813						52,750
Replace DPW Roof	16,084	15,738	15,278	14,879	14,469	14,039	91,476	181,963
Drainage at Elm/Franklin	2,779	2,718	2,637	2,567	2,496	2,420	14,829	30,446
East School Roof/Boiler	4,598	4,497	4,364	4,248	4,129	4,004	24,537	50,376
M. S. Roof and Doors (\$848,530)	90,126	85,443	83,035	80,725	78,485	76,245	492,805	986,864
Refurbish Fire Engine #4 (\$130,000)	44,989							44,989
Fire Pick up Truck (\$60,000)	21,785	20,860						42,645
Fire Station Ventilation (\$60,000)	6,382	6,197	6,025	5,860	5,700	5,540	37,860	73,564
H.S. Roof/M.S. Boiler (\$400,000)	43,780	41,485	40,324	39,210	38,130	37,050	246,090	486,068
Sidewalk Repairs (\$150,000)	42,875	40,117	38,526					121,518
Police Cruisers FY06 (\$105,000)	29,393	28,191	27,073					84,656
H.S. Bleachers (\$160,000)	22,150	18,410	17,851	16,315	15,835	15,355	74,955	180,872
H.S. Roof (\$215,000)	23,468	22,774	22,129	20,510	19,950	19,390	132,510	260,730
H.S. and M.S. Repairs (\$250,000)	26,924	26,137	25,406	24,705	24,025	23,345	154,705	305,247
Replace Arena Boards (\$155,000)ESTIMATE		23,250	22,475	21,700	20,925	20,150	89,125	197,625
Drainage at MacArthur/Spring St (\$800,000)ESTI	MATE	80,000	78,000	76,000	74,000	72,000	840,000	1,220,000
Arena Roof (\$225,000)ESTIMATE		22,560	21,996	21,432	20,868	20,304	236,880	344,040
Amount Funded within Tax Levy	1,062,533	1,098,452	1,014,381	917,051	887,187	808,230	4,607,066	10,394,900
School Renovation Projects (South School)	805,625	784,375	761,875	739,375	717,375	694,875	4,193,250	8,696,750
School Renovation Projects (Central School)	1,044,875	1,014,000	988,000	962,000	934,375	906,750	5,460,000	11,310,000
School Renov. Proj. (Robinhood)	943,950	916,950	897,450	876,450	853,950	829,950	5,744,400	11,063,100
School Renov. Proj. (Colonial)	888,030	869,805	845,505	824,445	802,845	780,165	5,984,280	10,995,075
								0
Subtotal	3,682,480	3,585,130	3,492,830	3,402,270	3,308,545	3,211,740	21,381,930	42,064,925
less: SBA Reimbursement	(1,683,058)	(1,683,058)	(1,683,058)	(1,683,058)	(1,683,058)	(1,683,058)	(12,988,350)	(23,086,698)
Amount Funded by Debt Exclusion	1,999,422	1,902,072	1,809,772	1,719,212	1,625,487	1,528,682	8,393,580	18,978,227

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015-2029	Total
MWRA Sewer Rehab. Project FY2005 MWRA Sewer Rehab. Project (Phase 6)	44,880	44,880	44,880					134,640
ESTIMATE	44,880	44,880	44,880	44,880	44,880			224,400
Amount Funded by Sewer Rates	89,760	89,760	89,760	44,880	44,880	0	0	359,040
MWRA Water Rehab. ProjectESTIMATE	136,080	136,080	136,080	136,080	136,080	136,080	408,240	1,224,720
Amount Funded by Water Rates	136,080	136,080	136,080	136,080	136,080	136,080	408,240	1,224,720
Total Debt Service	4,970,853	4,909,422	4,733,051	4,500,281	4,376,692	4,156,050	26,397,236	54,043,585

### **Sources of Revenues and a FY10 Forecast**

	5 FY04	4 FY05	3 FY06	2 FY07	1 FY08	Average of 3 middle Years	DOR Tax Recap FY09	Town Meeting Estimate FY10	Fiscal Policy Guideline Estimate	DOR Tax Recap FY10
Tax Levy Limit w/2.5 Annual 2.5% Increase							34,286,165	35,684,412	35,493,706	35,684,412
New Growth							300,000	250,000	200,000	250,000
Total Tax Levy w/2.5	28,991,159	29,926,597	30,427,732	31,787,843	33,205,193	n/a	34,586,165	35,934,412	35,693,706	35,934,412
Debt Exclusion	2,052,787	2,087,984	2,019,184	1,949,304	1,868,154	n/a	1,999,422	1,902,072		1,902,072
										1,683,058
SBAB Reimbursement	1,885,014	1,899,826	1,899,826	1,899,826	1,899,827	n/a	1,683,058	1,683,058		1,003,000
Local Receipts										
Tax Liens	157,681	158,537	75,734		110,709					
Deferred Real Estate Taxes										
Payments in Lieu of Taxes	35,338	32,385	39,894	52,341	68,239	42,524	65,000	68,239	42,524	68,239
Penalties/Interest on Taxes	115,167	175,296	146,056	155,757	300,537	159,036	273,000	228,147	159,036	228,147
Special Assessments Other Charges										
Motor Vehicle Excise	2,563,605	2,758,279	2,727,713	2,529,812	2,792,543	2,683,199	2,701,500	2,640,000	2,683,199	2,700,000
Treasurer - Interest Earned	88,928	84,555	189,241	244,081	391,629	174,083	360,000	164,350	174,083	314,350
Premium on Bonds				40,119						
Building/Wire/Gas Fees	441,777	549,843	439,335	482,117	381,041	454,410	361,000	380,000	454,410	380,000
Other Fees	212,976	222,712	353,369	308,466	297,118	276,099	275,000	312,792	276,099	302,792
Fines and Forfeits	16,714	14,421	14,777	20,267	41,375	17,253	40,000	30,821	17,253	30,821
Rentals	1,420	3,360	3,455	1,330	4,542	2,745	1,300	1,300	2,745	1,300
Other Dept revenues										
Recreation	1,405,307	1,331,438	1,363,341	1,308,502	1,255,658	1,334,427	1,244,685	1,282,080	1,334,427	1,282,080
Cemetery Fees	85,413	101,013	71,063	66,780	95,800	84,092	90,000	81,290	84,092	81,290
Misc. Departmental Fees	2,158	2,110	1,535	1,844	2,181	2,037	1,500	2,012	2,037	2,012

						1				
Other Depart. Revenue	26,073	17,370	20,263	21,099	18,467	19,943	18,000	19,783	19,943	19,783
School/ Medicare Reimb	99,267	129,527	273,863	266,163	324,384	223,184	240,000	229,050	223,184	240,000
District Court Fines	54,882	66,403	16,617	78,665	86,765	66,650	80,000	82,715	66,650	82,715
Pension Reimbursement	16,210	15,358	3,185	1,592	-		15,000			
Insurance Refunds										
Legal settlement										
RESCO reimbursement				17,223						
Part D Medicaid					53,963		50,000			
Old Checks Write-off				64,511			11,000			
MBTA Drainage reimbursement	28,254	303,000								
B&M Settlement			30,000		90,000		90,000			
Sewer Retained Earnings					250,000		,			
Total Local Receipts	5,351,170	5,965,607	5,769,441	5,660,669	6,314,951	5,539,683	5,916,985	5,522,579	5,539,683	5,733,529
State Aid	6,935,047	6,984,311	7,404,483	8,143,548	8,400,968		8,617,697	7,783,091		7,783,091
State Charges	(1,299,519)	(1,533,377)	(1,693,839)	(2,029,781)			(1,693,839)	(1,031,830)		(1,031,830)
Off-sets	(31,908)	(33,520)	(34,587)	(34,098)			(34,587)	(30,205)		(30,205)
Net State Aid	5,603,620	5,417,414	5,676,057	6,079,669			6,889,271	6,721,056		6,721,056

### Proposed FY10 Budget – Article 26

-		FY10 Budge	et	FY09 Budget FY08 Expended					FY07 E	xpended		
	Personnel	Operating	Total	Personnel	Operating	Total	Personnel	Operating	Total	Personnel	Operating	Total
114 Town Moderator	200	20	220	200	20	220	200		200	200		200
122 Board of Selectmen	82,807	9,947	92,754	85,059	13,797	98,856	78,646	13,098	91,744	61,254	14,090	75,344
123 Town Administrator	268,598	45,000	313,598	287,074	41,500	328,574	273,753	84,714	358,468	258,395	75,165	333,560
132 Reserve Fund					20,897	20,897						
135 Town Accountant	197,137	1,550	198,687	205,153	2,600	207,753	185,599	1,029	186,628	143,237	1,451	144,688
141 Board of Assessors	141,561	4,600	146,161	135,500	4,600	140,100	140,074	9,530	149,604	118,751	12,808	131,559
145 Treasurer/Collector	194,131	18,630	212,761	185,832	26,880	212,712	198,700	23,147	221,847	208,505	31,003	239,507
151 Town Counsel	101,264	7,725	108,989	100,516	17,225	117,741	96,850	14,423	111,273	93,205	15,965	109,170
155 MIS/GIS	64,119	110,953	175,072	61,361	116,953	178,314	18,500	53,853	72,354	7,800	57,308	65,108
161 Town Clerk	133,041	3,700	136,741	130,091	5,700	135,791	114,884	3,371	118,255	113,182	5,220	118,402
162 Elections	39,140	22,250	61,390	36,798	35,900	72,698	34,061	23,669	57,730	28,859	46,699	75,558
172 Whip Hill		10,950	10,950	36,737	10,950	47,687	35,431	10,846	46,277	34,064	10,490	44,555
182 Planning/Appeals	28,301	1,160	29,461	28,747	1,650	30,397	27,015	746	27,760	27,838	1,911	29,750
192 Public Property	1,000	94,112	95,112	1,000	94,112	95,112	13,398	91,500	104,898	28,439	78,098	106,538
210 Police	2,900,701	197,495	3,098,196	2,914,793	215,345	3,130,138	2,777,640	260,867	3,038,507	2,897,003	286,821	3,183,824
211 Traffic Directors	119,553	2,000	121,553	118,872	4,000	122,872	101,208	3,778	104,986	97,324	4,032	101,355
212 Dispatch	308,429	4,870	313,299	297,709	4,870	302,579	290,296	4,722	295,017	270,091	3,961	274,053
220 Fire & Rescue	2,246,233	138,503	2,384,736	2,265,065	141,303	2,406,368	2,173,408	146,740	2,320,147	2,162,791	155,391	2,318,182
241 Building Inspections	164,865	7,900	172,765	160,937	7,750	168,687	147,720	11,011	158,731	133,190	15,113	148,303
291 Emergency Mgmt	2,000		2,000	5,000		5,000	5,000		5,000	23,920	5,050	28,970
300 Public Schools		22,163,000	22,163,000		21,931,844	21,931,844		20,779,277	20,779,277		20,090,071	20,090,071
398/399 Voke Schools		685,978	685,978		670,978	670,978		628,642	628,642		451,814	451,814
400 Other DPW	620,680	2,471,580	3,092,260	617,640	2,348,580	2,966,220	558,127	2,452,585	3,010,712	469,279	2,108,745	2,578,024
440 Sewer	441,743	4,110,594	4,552,337	425,229	3,891,825	4,317,054	422,389	3,715,060	4,137,449	459,199	3,473,349	3,932,547
450 Water	455,359	2,866,837	3,322,196	444,211	2,885,650	3,329,861	445,580	2,753,911	3,199,491	481,909	2,675,151	3,157,060
491 Cemetery	117,538	10,825	128,363	113,166	10,825	123,991	62,260	10,772	73,032	88,578	10,082	98,660
510 Public Health Services	134,307	1,840	136,147	143,214	2,140	145,354	124,629	5,600	130,229	132,190	5,223	137,413
541 Council on Aging		30,000	30,000		30,000	30,000	86,174	28,204	114,379	109,313	46,094	155,408
542 Recreation							15,000	3,000	18,000			
543 Veterans Services	10,455	79,050	89,505	10,455	79,050	89,505	10,615	78,110	88,725	10,415	58,197	68,612
610 Public Library	501,653	117,950	619,603	494,268	171,474	665,742	457,669	210,183	667,852	459,527	158,810	618,337
630 Unicorn – Golf	222,955	278,841	501,796	225,661	327,950	553,611	209,351	299,177	508,528	199,844	319,306	519,151
631 Unicorn – Rink	150,026	301,480	451,506	145,561	324,400	469,961	127,575	349,746	477,321	137,893	311,645	449,538
710 Debt & Interest		4,909,425	4,909,425		4,868,555	4,868,555		5,138,068	5,138,068		5,022,509	5,022,509
910 Non-Contributory Pension		56,500	56,500		56,500	56,500		53,240	53,240		56,123	56,123
911 Contributory Pension		3,685,346	3,685,346		3,638,123	3,638,123		4,530,832	4,530,832		4,013,085	4,013,085
918 Capital Improvements		, , -	, , -		489,000	489,000		309,326	309,326		82,562	82,562
912 Health Insurance		6,875,526	6,875,526		7,213,190	7,213,190		6,940,573	6,940,573		7,012,739	7,012,739
919 Unclassified		1,131,969	1,131,969		1,178,938	1,178,938		1,156,579	1,156,579		1,059,305	1,059,305
920 Non-Departmental		36,085	36,085		36,085	36,085		36,065	36,065		34,111	34,111
Total	9,647,796	50,494,191	60,141,987	9,675,849	50,921,159	60,597,008	9,231,752	50,235,994	59,467,745	9,256,198	47,809,496	57,065,694

Stabilization Fund Ba and recent activi	•		
December 1994 December 1995 December 1996 December 1997 December 1998 December 1999 December 2000 December 2001 December 2002 December 2005 December 2006			\$2,501 \$377,165 \$646,824 \$867,062 \$821,152 \$1,079,308 \$1,352,339 \$1,842,853 \$1,293,669 \$1,161,752 \$611,752
Before Oct 2007 Special Town Meeting			\$664,529
Oct 18, 2007 Article #14	deposit	\$805,000	
December 2007			\$1,469,529
May 5, 2008 Article #6 May 5, 2008 Article #32 FY08 Interest earned	withdrawal deposit deposit	(\$205,000) \$1,358,312 \$70,134	
Before Oct 2008 Special Town Meeting			\$2,692,975
Oct 20, 2008 STM (Article #10)	withdrawal	(\$558,890)	
December 2008			\$2,134,085
Article #18 Fund Extra Police and Rink OT Article #18 Fund Snow & Ice overspending Article #18 Fund Reduced State Aid Balance while considering Article #20	withdrawal withdrawal withdrawal	(\$143,500) (\$108,897) (\$198,344)	\$1,683,344
Article #20 Transfer for Capital Stabilization Possible Balance, after May 2009 Annual	withdrawal	(\$198,344)	<b>A.</b>
Town Meeting			\$1,183,344

# Paper Recycling Pledge – a little effort, a big difference

Please take a moment to take the pledge

I pledge to learn what paper items are recyclable in my community.
I pledge to lead by example in my neighborhood by recycling paper.
I pledge to tell five friends that paper recycling is the easiest way to slow global warming.
I pledge to investigate or start a paper recycling program in my workplace.
I pledge to email my elected officials for increased funding of community recycling programs.

Paper and yard waste are the heavy items to recycle and make a difference. Make sure grass trimmings and raked leaves are never put in a plastic bag and never left curbside with solid waste trash.

#### Why Recycle? Because, it all comes back to you.



America Recycles is November 15<sup>th</sup> and everyday.

#### **Plastics**

Unlike some communities that limit the types of plastic products for recycling, Stoneham simplifies the recycling system and accepts all defined plastic types.

- Type 1 Soda and water bottles most polyethylenes
- Type 2 Detergent and Milk bottles, most toys high density polyethylenes
- Type 3 Food wraps and blister packs vinyl chlorides
- Type 4 Plastic bags low density polyethylenes
- Type 5 Bottle tops polypropylenes
- Type 6 Utensils polystyrenes
- Type 7 Mixed plastics with no recycling potential

Milk jugs and yogurt cups are recycled to become building materials in Leominster and Ontario. Carpets and those comfy polyester fleece jackets are made from soda and water bottles in Lawrence and Westborough.

#### Compost

If it's natural, keep it and compost it. Wine corks, cooking oils, apple peels and cores, and salad refuse.

#### Yard Waste

The densest items in the solid waste stream are grass clippings and leaves. Please bring them to Stevens St.

#### **Glass and Metals**

Windows, mirrors, and corning ware are not accepted.

#### Clothing, Furniture, Housewares and Carpeting

Consider a donation. It's a nice thing to do and for some people it's a tax deduction. Dispose of unwanted items through yard sales and swap shops. The aluminum in broken and worn out lawn chairs is recyclable. Do you know with regard to clothing, furniture and housewares what is the best environmental decision? Buy quality and durable products.

#### **Paper Goods**

Paper comprises 40% of the municipal solid waste stream. Beyond newspapers and magazines, also recycle any paper or cardboard item that is free of food and plastic. That's computer paper, toilet paper rolls, cracker boxes, and junk mail. Paper and Cardboard is sent to Salem, Charlestown, Erving, Worcester, Fitchburg and Haverhill for processing. Plastic laminated paper items, such as milk and OJ cartons, are not recyclable. Strip the plastic window from mailings and recycle the rest of the paper envelope. Some companies advertise their juice boxes as good for the earth and recyclable. The technology to recycle juice boxes, aseptic packaging, is rare and does not exist in this area.

#### **Not Recycled in Stoneham**

After it's discarded, what does your air conditioner do? Well, a pound of CFC destroys 50 tons of Ozone.

#### **Construction Debris**

The town offers no service to collect and dispose of lumber, plaster, and any construction debris. Residents are responsible for assuming this responsibility and cost.

#### **Toxics**

The heaviest accumulation of toxics comes from home owners. Checkout the poisons, paints, auto fluids, garden supplies and cleaners that you use. Weed killers, brake fluid and Liquid Plumber were never intended to become part of our food stream, water supply and air.

#### Mercury

No mercury wastes are prohibited from incineration and from landfills. Thermometers containing mercury may be exchanged at the Board of Health office. That's right, a free digital thermometer for your used old and dangerous mercury liquid thermometer. Massachusetts law prohibits disposal of fluorescent bulbs in the trash. Covanta, the corporation that processes our trash, has provided the town with a receptacle at Stevens St. to collect fluorescent bulbs. Whether they be the traditional four foot tube or the newer cork screw type. Fluorescent bulbs must be taken to Stevens St. Mercury vapor lighting, a fluorescent bulb, is more efficient than the common incandescent light and much better for the environment, but care has to be taken to dispose of them.

#### White Goods

The town offers to dispose of refrigerators at cost of \$10. Other Large bulky items are \$5.

#### **Computer Monitors and TVs**

The town will accept CRT's for a \$10 fee.

